Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

changing first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

combining the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein the time-changed audio information occurs closer in time to the second audio information than the first audio information.

2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the first audio information is provided by a first source; and

wherein the second audio information is provided by a second source that is remote from the first source.

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first audio information is transmitted to the second source over a communications link; and

wherein the second audio information is transmitted over the communications link to the first source.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein changing the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval comprises time-expanding the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the method further comprising:

changing the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information, wherein the combining comprises combining the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 5 further comprising:

determining that the first time-changed audio information and the second audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

wherein changing the second audio information comprises time-compressing the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than the third time interval.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A method according to Claim 1~~ A method of processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

changing first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

combining the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination.

8. (Currently amended) ~~A method according to Claim~~ 1 A method of processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

changing first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

combining the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information

wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at the destination.

9. (Currently amended) ~~A method according to Claim~~ 1 A method of processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

changing first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

combining the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a first delay between a first transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a first reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination and further based on a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a second delay between a second transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from the destination to the source and a second reception time at which the second audio information is received at the source.

10. (Original) A method according to Claim 7 wherein the at least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a satellite communications link.

11. (Original) A method according to Claim 7 wherein the at least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a voice over IP communications link.

12. (Original) A method according to Claim 11 wherein the delay is estimated based on a quality of service parameter associated with the voice over IP communications link.

13. (Currently amended) An electronic communication device for processing audio information broadcast to an audience, the device comprising:

a processor circuit configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

a combiner circuit configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information, wherein the time-changed audio information occurs closer in time to the second audio information than the first audio information.

14. (Original) A device according to Claim 13 wherein the processor circuit is configured to time-expand the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

15. (Original) A device according to Claim 14 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the processor circuit is further configured to change the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information; and

wherein the combiner circuit is further configured to combine the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

16. (Original) A device according to Claim 15 wherein the processor circuit is further configured to determine that the first time-changed audio information and the second audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

wherein the processor circuit is configured to time-compress the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than the third time interval.

17. (Currently amended) ~~A device according to Claim 13~~ An electronic communication device for processing audio information broadcast to an audience, the device comprising:

a processor circuit configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

a combiner circuit configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination.

18. (Currently amended) ~~A device according to Claim 13~~ An electronic communication device for processing audio information broadcast to an audience, the device comprising:

a processor circuit configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

a combiner circuit configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at the destination.

19. (Currently amended) A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein the time-changed audio information occurs closer in time to the second audio information than the first audio information.

20. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein the first audio information is provided by a first source; and

wherein the second audio information is provided by a second source that is remote from the first source.

21. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 20 wherein the first audio information is transmitted to the second source over a communications link; and

wherein the second audio information is transmitted over the communications link to the first source.

22. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 19 wherein the computer readable program code configured to change the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval comprises computer readable program code configured to time-expand the first audio information from occurring in the first time interval to occurring in the second time interval that is greater than the first interval.

23. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 22 wherein the time-changed audio information comprises first time-changed audio information, the computer program product further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change the second audio information from occurring in a third time interval to occurring in a fourth time interval to provide second time-changed audio information; and

wherein the computer readable program code configured to combine comprises combining the first time-changed audio information with second time-changed audio information to provide the broadcast audio information.

24. (Currently amended) ~~A computer program product according to Claim 23 further comprising:~~ A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information;

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information;

computer readable program code configured to determine that the first time-changed audio information and the second audio information occur during an overlapping time interval; and

computer readable program code configured to change the second audio information comprises computer readable program code configured to time-compress the second audio information to occur in the fourth time interval that is greater than the third time interval.

25. (Currently amended) ~~A computer program product according to Claim 19~~ A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination.

26. (Currently amended) ~~A computer program product according to Claim 19~~ A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a delay between a transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a reception time at which the second audio information is received at the destination.

27. (Currently amended) ~~A computer program product according to Claim 19~~ A computer program product for processing audio information for broadcast to an audience comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program product comprising:

computer readable program code configured to change first audio information from occurring in a first time interval to occurring in a second time interval to provide time-changed audio information; and

computer readable program code configured to combine the time-changed audio information with second audio information that is responsive to the first audio information to provide broadcast audio information wherein a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a first delay between a first transmission time at which the first audio information is transmitted from a source to a destination and a first reception time at which the first audio information is received at the destination and further based on a difference between the first time interval and the second time interval is based on a second delay between a second transmission time at which the second audio information is transmitted from the destination to the source and a second reception time at which the second audio information is received at the source.

28. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 25 wherein the at least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a satellite communications link.

29. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 25 wherein the at least one of the first and second audio information is transmitted over a voice over IP communications link.

30. (Original) A computer program product according to Claim 29 wherein the delay is estimated based on a quality of service parameter associated with the voice over IP communications link.